
AMENDMENT IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-45 (cancelled).

46. (New) A method, comprising:

including force information in a chat message, the force information being configured to cause a haptic sensation to be output when the chat message is delivered to a client machine; and
transmitting the chat message to a network.

47. (New) The method of claim 46 further comprising receiving the chat message via a chat interface.

48. (New) The method of claim 47 further comprising receiving a haptic effect selected from a plurality of haptic effects in the chat interface and associating the force information with the selected haptic effect.

49. (New) The method of claim 48 wherein the plurality of haptic effects is graphically represented by a plurality of buttons.

50. (New) The method of claim 47 further comprising associating the force information with a command input to the chat interface.

51. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the force information includes a force command, the force command configured to instruct the output of the haptic sensation associated with the delivery of the chat message.

52. The method of claim 46 wherein the force information includes a network address, the network address being associated with a network location storing a library of haptic sensations.

53. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the force information includes data characterizing the haptic sensation to be output.

54. (New) The method of claim 46 further comprising including a sound information in the chat message, the sound information configured to cause an auditory effect to be output when the chat message is delivered to a client machine.

55. (New) The method of claim 46 wherein the network includes one of a local area network (LAN), a wide area network (WAN), a wireless network, a computer network, a telephone network, and the Internet.

56. (New) A method, comprising:
receiving a chat message from a network;
extracting force information from the chat message; and
generating a first signal associated with the force information.

57. (New) The method of claim 56 further comprising directing the first signal to a haptic device, the first signal configured to cause the haptic device to output a haptic sensation associated with the chat message.

58. The method of claim 57 further comprising displaying the chat message.

59. The method of claim 56 further comprising extracting sound information from the chat message and generating a second signal associated with the sound information.

60. The method of claim 59 further comprising directing the second signal to an audio device, the second signal configured to cause the audio device to output an auditory effect associated with the chat message.

61. The method of claim 56 wherein the network includes one of a local area network (LAN), a wide area network (WAN), a wireless network, a computer network, a telephone network, and the Internet.

62. (New) A computer-readable medium storing program code, the program code comprising instructions to cause a processor to:

include force information in a chat message, the force information being configured to cause a haptic sensation to be output when the chat message is delivered to a client machine; and

transmit the chat message to a network.

63. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 62 further comprising code to receive the chat message via a chat interface.

64. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 63 further comprising code to receive a haptic effect selected from a plurality of haptic effects and associating the force information with the selected haptic effect.

65. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 63 further comprising code to associate the force information with a command input to the chat interface.

66. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 62 wherein the force information includes a force command, the force command configured to instruct the output of the haptic sensation associated with the delivery of the chat message.

67. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 62 further comprising code to include a sound information in the chat message, the sound information configured to cause an auditory effect to be output when the chat message is delivered.

68. (New) A computer-readable medium storing program code, the program code comprising instructions to cause a processor to:

receive a chat message from a network;
extract force information from the chat message; and
generate a first signal associated with the force information.

69. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 68 further comprising code to direct the first signal to a haptic device, the first signal configured to cause the haptic device to output a haptic sensation associated with the chat message.

70. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 69 further comprising code to display the chat message.

71. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 68 further comprising code to extract a sound information from the chat message and code to generate a second signal associated with the sound information.

72. (New) The computer-readable medium of claim 71 further comprising code to direct the second signal to an audio device, the audio device operable to output an auditory sensation associated with the chat message.
